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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/720,371	11/24/2003	Susan S. Chen	702.298	4720
29228	7590	08/25/2006	EXAMINER	
GARMIN INTERNATIONAL, INC.			TO, TUAN C	
ATTN: Legal - IP			ART UNIT	
1200 EAST 151ST STREET			PAPER NUMBER	
OLATHE, KS 66062			3663	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 3-5, and 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 3 recites the limitation: "aircraft on an aircraft flight path". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. In claim 1, the searching a portion of the memory buffer cells in a predetermined prioritized order, however, the search is not related to at least an aircraft parameter.

Claim 10 recites the limitation: "aircraft flight path". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claims 11-13 recite the limitation: "aircraft altitude". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

Claims 14 and 15 recite the limitation: "a pilot of the aircraft to pull-up". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

Claim 19 recites the limitation: "terrain alert", "terrain display", and "terrain alert level". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 3663

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-5, 8, and 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Riemens et al. (US 20030063673A1).

Riemens et al. teaches a system/method of searching data relating to at least one characteristic of a spatial region comprising: identifying a search vector through the search area S (Riemens et al., page 2, paragraph 0029), the search vector V (Riemens et al., page 2 paragraph 0020). Riemens et al. does not mention that said vector has a starting point, a direction and a length, however, such feature is inherently included since each vector is defined by it starting point, direction and its length. Its length is the absolute value of the vector.

Riemens et al. further teaches storing a portion of the data relating to the spatial region in a memory buffer having memory cells representative of the search vector such that spatial region data corresponding to the search vector is stored in memory cells representative of the search vector (Riemens et al, page 2, paragraph 0029), searching a portion of the memory buffer cells in a predetermined prioritized order, and comparing a value stored in the memory cell with a predetermined search criteria independent of flight path angle (Riemens et al., page 3, paragraph 0034).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-19 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In response to the applicant's argument concerning the 112(2), claims 3-5, and 10-19 are still rejected under 35 U.S.C 112(2) because the following reasons:

In claim 1, the searching a portion of the memory buffer cells in a predetermined prioritized order, however, the search is not related to at least an aircraft parameter.

In claim 10, the method of search data is not related to an aircraft parameter or said search has been done on an aircraft system. Claim 10 is now claiming for identifying a search vector of claim 1 comprising identifying an aircraft flight path through a geographic region. It shows there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 26-37 are still set in a condition of allowance.

Claims 6, 7, and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 3663

Conclusions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6985. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner,



Tuan C To

August 17, 2006